joint activity. The ICMR have suggested cooperation in the field of indigenous medicine with ASEAN countries.

Norms fixed for pesticide level in packed food

†2649. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed by Government for carrying out tests of packed food items and soft drinks;

(b) the number of items for which tests were carried out during the last three years;

(c) the details of items which have been fulfilling the said norms alongwith the names of companies manufacturing these items; and

(d) the names of companies found flouting such norms during the last three years and rules under which action was taken by Government against such cmpanies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) (a) The standards/ specifications and norms in respect of pesticide residues for various food articles including packed food items and soft drinks have been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955. The implementation of the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder is entrusted with the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts. who draw random samples of different food articles including packed food items and soft drinks for analysis from all levels *viz.* manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers.

(b) The details of the number of food samples of all commodities including packed food items and soft drinks examined; number of food samples found adulterated during the years 2001 to 2003 (based on the information furnished by the Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.Ts. are at enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) No action is required for the companies manufacturing food items which are fulfilling the said norms, however, action under section 7/16 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 is taken by State Governments in respect of companies manufacturing food articles which are not found to be conforming to the prescribed norms/standards.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of food samples examined and found adulterated (commodity-wise) including packed food articles for the years 2001-2003

Year	Beverages alcoholic/ non-alcoholic		Spices and condiments		Sweetening agents		Tea,Coffee, Milk coca and chicory		Butter, ghee, ice-cream and milk products		Edible oils, fats and vanaspati		Cereals, cereal products and pulses		Fruit products		Infant food		Other miscellaneous food products	
	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)	(E)	(A)
2001*	3914	718	14823	1068	3451	409	9285	312	6372	2111	5367	913	15918	1790	15228	1416	1499	158	412	18	17056	2134
2002**	3906	750	15103	1076	4064	416	8571	327	6199	2066	5062	874	12096	1255	15414	1190	1979	126	435	21	12340	2044
2003***	4577	494	12666	780	3898	406	7026	237	7358	2425	4744	795	12429	1356	12736	938	2142	185	523	17	12676	1988

Indications:

(E) : No. of food samples examined

(A) : No. of food samples found adulterated

* : Does not include information from the State of Gujarat

** : Does not include information from the States of Gujarat, Bihar and Jharkhand

*** : Does not include information from the States/U.Ts. of Andaman & Nicobar Island, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Gujarat, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa & Tamil Nadu